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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,925	01/02/2001	Dauna R. Williams	1906-001A	1241

9629 7590 03/22/2007
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EXAMINER

ALVAREZ, RAQUEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3622

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to communication filed on 1/17/2007.
2. The petition filed on 1/17/2007 claiming priority to U.S. Provisional application 60/173,680 filed December 30, 1999 has been dismissed. Therefore the current application is given its filing date of 1/2/2201. Stenner is prior art to the present application which has a filing date of 8/10/2000.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 18-20, 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stettner US Patent Application Publication US 2002/0023130).

With respect to claims 18 and 27, Stettner teaches means for sending an electronic query to a member of a test audience, wherein said query elicits an electronic feedback message [0017, 0032]; means for receiving said message [0018, 0019, 0034, 0035]; and means for electronically transmitting data comprising said feedback message, wherein said data is electronically analyzed and utilized in development of said show [0028].

With respect to claims 19, 20, Stettner further teaches that the show comprises a television, or online series [0020] .

With respect to claims 23-24, Stettner further teaches that said transmitting and receiving are performed via the Internet or via one or more viewer portals [0020].

With respect to claim 25, Stettner further teaches that the data is transmitted to a broadcaster [0028].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 21-22, 26, 28-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stettner.

Claim 26 further recite that the feedback message is to be incorporated into the script of a show scheduled for broadcast within seven days. Stettner teaches that the feedback messages are incorporated into the broadcast show [0027]. Stettner is silent as to how long it takes for the user's feedback to be incorporated into the show.

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Incorporated the user's input within seven days will allow proper and ample of time for the show to be edit with the new content. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included incorporating the user's input within 7 days in order to obtain the above mentioned advantage.

Claims 21-22 further recite structuring the queries into multi-tiered manner based on when a tier of questions can be incorporated into said story. Stettner teaches structuring the responses to the user's input into said story [0017, 0032]. Stettner doesn't specifically teach structuring the queries into a multi-tiered manner based on when a tier question can be incorporated into the story. Official notice is taken that it is old and well known to structure queries/questions in a multi-tiered manner based on when a tier questions is to incorporated. For example, based on the stage of when a new product or service, will be marketed different level of information is needed for the customers in order to fully develop the product/services. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included structuring the queries into multi-tiered manner based on when a tier of questions can be incorporated into said story in order to achieve the above mentioned advantage.

Claims 28-33 further recite that the query further comprises a prequel-mercial to garner feedback for initial episodes, to educate the audience about the show, promote the show, to provide portions of the storyline that are supportive of the show. Stettner doesn't specifically teach that the questions/query comprises a prequel-mercial to

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garner feedback for initial episodes, to educate the audience about the show, promote the show, to provide portions of the storyline that are supportive of the show. Official notice is taken that it is old and well known in TV shows to place commercials promoting responses to shows, educating the audience of the upcoming shows in order to promote the upcoming events. For example, previews of upcoming shows promote audience participation and viewership of the show, as well as educate and promote the show and shows the viewers mini-portions of the upcoming shows, the viewers feedback is measure by the viewership of the show. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included query of prequel-mercial to garner feedback for initial episodes, to educate the audience about the show, promote the show, to provide portions of the storyline that are supportive of the show in order to obtain the above mentioned advantage.

Claim 34 further recites that the prequel-mercial comprises product placement advertisement within said storyline. Official notice is taken that it is old and well known in marketing to provide advertisements/information/products related to the information that the user is viewing. For example, certain websites will provide advertisements or the like based on the content of the web page that the user is viewing. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to have included prequel-mercial comprises product placement advertisement within said storyline in order to better target the product placements.

Response to Arguments

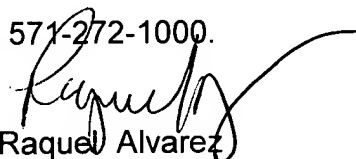
5. Applicant didn't present any arguments with the response filed on 1/17/2007.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raquel Alvarez whose telephone number is (571)272-6715. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric w. Stamber can be reached on (571)272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Raquel Alvarez
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3622

R.A.
3/14/2007